BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2008

The monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School

Committee was held on Monday, March 24, 2008, in the cafeteria of

Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street in Bristol, Rl. The

Chairperson, William A. Estrella, Jr, called the meeting to order at

approximately 7:04 PM.

William A. Estrella, Jr., Marjorie J. McBride, Paul Silva,

William M. O'Dell, Paul E. Brule, David L. Dugan and John P. Saviano;

Edward P. Mara, Superintendent; Melinda L. Thies, Assistant

Superintendent for Secondary Curriculum, Assessment

Instruction; Jane F. Correia, Director of Administration and Finance;

and Andrew D. Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor

Absent: Diana B. Campbell and Karen A. Lynch

OPENING BUSINESS

All present were invited to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Accolades

Mr. Estrella commented that the certificates are on behalf of all

School Committee members, Administration, staff and the community; what is important about our area is community.

Again this year our DECA students made us extremely proud! Under the guidance of Maureen Gauthier and Anne Ricci, the Mt. Hope High School DECA business students won first, second and third place at the RI DECA Career Development Conference. The first and second place winners will represent Mt. Hope and Rhode Island at the International Career Development Conference in Atlanta, Georgia this April.

Third Place Second Place First Place
Briana Coletta Alyssa Redmond Esther Morency
Krystal Waters Samantha Perry Danielle Sheets
Andrew Lombardi April Arruda

Under the supervision of one of our teachers at Kickemuit Middle School, Patricia Ryone, several students from the Bristol Warren School District entered the Rhode Island State Elks Association Americanism Essay Contest—the topic of the essay was "What Is An American?" Many students from both public and private schools throughout Rhode Island participated. The following students were selected as the winners and were honored at a dinner in March.

Congratulations to:

1st place boys 8th grade: Joseph Simeone (\$200.00 savings bond)
2nd place boys 8th grade: Jonathan Belmore (\$100.00 savings bond)

2nd place girls 8th grade: Keely Varada (\$100.00 savings bond)

1st place girls 5th grade: Olivia Borgia

Honorable mention: Natalie Bierbaum

Twenty-nine students in grades 4 through 8 competed in the District Spelling Bee this month. To win, the top student had to spell "narcissistic" – he will represent the District at the State Spelling Bee. We congratulate:

2nd place winner – a 4th grader – Max Lawless

1st place winner - a 6th grader - Jeremy Spence

The Kickemuit Cheerleading Team, The Wildcats, for the second time in four years, placed first at the Rhode Island Middle School State Cheerleading Meet, winning the state title. The team's coach, is teacher Lynn DePasquale.

We congratulate:

Alex Absi Captain Taylor Foster Hailey O'Dell

Olivia Almeida Erin Gill Kennedy Oliveira

Sam Beaulieu Captain Abbie Harris Captain Kiley Quinn Capatin

Allyiah Benford Erin Hebert Marisa Rainey

Amanda Bernard Amanda Ignacio Rachael Rimoshytus

Caitlin Bisbano Samantha Jannitto Nicole Rodriques

Jillian Borgia Victoria Lombardo Ashley Silva

Kaitie Briggs Laura Maisano Sarah St. Vincent

Anastacia Edouard MaKenzie Marshall Dionna Tebano

Carly Ferias Captain Emily McCarthy Cassidy Toste

Brooke Fernandes Briana McQueeney

The Mt. Hope High School wrestlers, coached by Bruce Hutchison and Robert Blakely, made a tremendous showing at the State Tournament. Congratulations to the Mt. Hope High School wrestlers who qualified for participation in the State Wrestling Tournament and placed at the Division II Sectional Tournament:

Ben Arruda

Craig Canario

Corbin Rodrigues

Tom Santolupo

Tyler Hutchison -- placed 4th

Zach Ziobro -- placed 2nd

Kenny Murgo -- placed 1st

MT. HOPE HIGH SCHOOL WINTER SPORTS ALL DIVISION SELECTIONS

BOYS BASKETBALL

Justin Maurice 2nd Team All Division II South

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Ariel Teixeira 1st Team All Division II East & All Division II

Amy Moreira 3rd Team All Division II East

Stacy Delekta Honorable Mention All Division II East

GYMNASTICS

Kyle MacGovern 1st Team All Division II

Kayla Dallaire 1st Team All Division II

Jessica Varrichione 2nd Team All Division II

Chelsea Francis 3rd Team All Division II

HOCKEY

Kyle Gasior 1st Team All League

Cory Lescault 2nd Team All League

Ben Morrissette 3rd Team All League

GIRLS SWIMMING

Emily Anness 1st Team 200 Medley Relay

Kristin Belmore 1st Team 200 Medley Relay

1st Team 200 Freestyle Relay

Rebecca Copeland 1st Team 200 Freestyle Relay

Hillary Mulvey 1st Team 200 Medley Relay

1st Team 200 Freestyle Relay

1st Team 100 Butterfly

1st Team 100 Backstroke

Erin Oliver 1st Team 200 Medley Relay

1st Team 200 Freestyle Relay

1st Team 100 Freestyle

2nd Team 200 Freestyle

BOYS INDOOR TRACK

Jeff Allen 2nd Team 4x400m

Andrew Augustus All Metropolitan Division: 1st Team 4x800m

2nd Team 4x400m

New England Championship Qualifier 4x800m

Chris Azar All Metropolitan Division: 1st Team 4x800m

2nd Team 4x400m

New England Championship Qualifier 4x800m

Jason Godek All Metropolitan Division: 1st Team 4x800m

2nd Team 4x400m

New England Championship Qualifier 4x800m

Jon Kmieciak All Metropolitan Division: 1st Team 4x800m

All Class B: 3rd Team High Jump

New England Championship Qualifier 4x800m

GIRLS INDOOR TRACK

Carissa Canario All Sullivan Division: 3rd Team 4x800m

Emma Leary All Sullivan Division: 3rd Team 4x800m

Emma MacDougall All Sullivan Division: 3rd Team 4x800m

Meghan McMullen All Sullivan Division: 3rd Team 4x800m & 600m

WRESTLING

Tyler Hutchison Academic All-State

Kiefer McCaughley 1st Team All-League

Ken Murgo 1st Team All-League

1st Team All-State

Academic All-State

Zach Ziobro 1st Team All-League

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cara Cromwell, 649 Hope Street in Bristol:

"Thank you once again for your service to the children of Bristol and Warren.

I'm here today to talk about the state of the schoolyard at

Colt-Andrews. I don't stand here alone -- there are a number of people including parents, aides, educators, and other Bristol citizens who have spent a considerable amount of time on this issue. Just a handful of us are here tonight.

Colt has never had a good schoolyard — I remember getting scraped up on the blacktop and playing in the mud when I was in 4th and 5th grade. It wasn't ideal of course but at least there was space to play outside and have phys ed. I'm here because the current plan for Colt-Andrews does not provide for enough space for phys ed — or even recess.

The history of how the schoolyard became a parking lot is unclear. At some point in time, staff members started parking in the schoolyard. Clearly this was tolerated, but the fact is that slowly, the cars took over a good portion of the schoolyard. I assumed that when the school was renovated that the schoolyard would also be restored. I have a copy of the plans and can see that the parking area will actually be expanded from the area used previously, so that the area left for play is extremely small and mainly an asphalt incline.

Having a decent outdoor play area is essential. With the gym also serving as the cafeteria, even indoor phys ed classes will be a tight fit — especially when two classes have to share the space. Wouldn't it be great if the kids could have phys ed outside when the weather is nice? Wouldn't it be nice if the children had a decent place to run

around in at recess? I certainly don't need to tell you how much children need exercise and fresh air to stay healthy and do well in school.

I have talked with members of this committee and know that this was a concern from the beginning. I understand that many in the community were frustrated with the failure of the bond and the requirement that Colt be used as a school. We need to put that frustration behind us and do the best with what we've got to work with.

We are aware that town ordinances require that you provide parking for the new addition at Andrews — and concede that point. No parking was required for the older part of Andrews because there was never parking to begin with.

However, my belief is that the town ordinances should not have been interpreted to require that parking be provided in the schoolyard for staff at Colt School. It was not intended to be a parking lot — it was a schoolyard where people parked. If I start dumping trash in my yard, does it become a landfill?

More importantly, the thousands and thousands of children that will attend these schools should be given priority over the 38 cars that the current plan will accommodate. It's certainly hard to quantify, but my daughters will spend a combined 11 years at Colt-Andrews -- and

over the next 100 years — when our grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren attend those schools — there will literally be tens of thousands of children who do not have access to a decent schoolyard because of 38 parking spaces.

I want to assure you that we are committed to following the process. I have spoken with Tracey McGee numerous times about this issue and she is completely supportive of any effort to improve the schoolyard to provide an appropriate play space. We want to work with Mrs. McBride to find a solution that will accommodate the needs of the building as well as provide some parking for staff. We know that some part of the schoolyard will need to accommodate some parking, AC equipment and a dumpster.

Over the weekend, Ian Parker — a Byfield parent and engineer — spent some time developing some alternative parking plans. I have two sketches to share with Mrs. McBride and look forward to working with her on this. I am certain that with a committed group of parents and school committee support, we can create a much better schoolyard at Colt-Andrews.

One final note — I am particularly sensitive to the budget crisis in the state and the impact it has on your budget. Please know that we seek a budget-neutral solution to this problem. We're not looking for funding for playground equipment or even a new surface. We're

simply looking for your assistance and support in restoring more of the schoolyard for the use of the children. Once we've accomplished this, we will find ways to make the space we have as good as it can be. To that end, Ms. McGee has secured considerable commitments from a local landscape architect as well as a construction company willing to tear up and remove the asphalt at no cost. We will raise money and apply for grants to make a great place for children to play and learn.

Clearly, those specifics can be left for another day. Right now, we just need to find a solution that will give more of the schoolyard back to the children.

Thank you again for your time and consideration."

Susan Donovan of 2 Rego Avenue in Bristol, and a Bristol Warren Physical Education Teacher, said she agrees with all that Cara Cromwell said. She wished to go on record saying it has never been a more important time to advocate for children's health; we have the first generation of poor health due to sedentary life styles; it's only 20 minutes but it is so very important; it is a proven fact that active students do better in school. It would be a shame if a parking lot took precedence over the kids. She is hoping to have programs like the one at Guiteras at all schools, but space is needed. Mr. Estrella thanked Ms. Donovan for her continued efforts to enhance the health and wellness of all our children.

lan Parker, a Byfield parent, thanked the Committee and Administration for the education his children are getting; they are excited about moving to the new school. Being an engineer, he created a couple of concepts for play space and off street, off site parking which he would like the Committee to consider. He would like to see a safe, level, soft play space for the children. Mr. Estrella thanked Mr. Parker.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Silva motioned to approve the consent agenda; Mrs. McBride and Mr. Brule seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7 to 0.

BUDGET/ FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. O'Dell stated that this Thursday, at 7:00 PM at the Bristol Town Hall, will be an important vote of the Joint Finance Committee on our budget for the next fiscal year; it is important for parents to attend. The regular monthly meeting was rescheduled to March 31 at 6:00 PM at Oliver.

Dr. Mara reported on the Kickemuit Technology Space: the project is on time and on budget. Mr. Estrella asked Administration and the Project Coordinator to keep Mr. Morris informed of the progress.

PERSONNEL/CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Silva had the Superintendent's evaluation packet distributed to the members; they should complete it and return it to the clerk. The next negotiation session is April 2.

CHAIRPERSON'S INITIATIVES

Mr. Estrella informed the Committee he had asked the Superintendent, Mrs. McBride and Attorney Henneous to review our policies and procedures on emails—there is a blur between emails on social and day to day business and school district official venues. He questions why state law differs for school committees and town council members. All items become public record when they are emailed to the school committee.

School Committee Issues List

Issues to be added or removed should be brought to the clerk as soon as possible.

Workshop Agenda Items

The next few workshops are assigned; July and August meeting are light; the docket is fairly full up to elections. Mr. O'Dell asked for a presentation on My Turn, a new program at Mt. Hope which addresses at risk students who may not have college in their future. Mr. Saviano informed the Committee there is a representative of My

Turn who is paid from a grant; the program is very impressive and is moving rapidly. Dr. Mara said the District contributes a small amount to the program because we feel it is important to our students. Mr. Estrella placed this on the April Workshop agenda.

Mrs. McBride announced the Superintendent's evaluation has to be addressed next month; please contact her with any questions. Mr. Estrella would like to set a special meeting for this purpose on the third Monday in April.

Mr. Saviano asked if tonight's Personnel Subcommittee Meeting was held. Mr. Silva confirmed that it was called to order, the minutes were accepted and there was no discussion necessary; there was no discussion on negotiations.

COLT ANDREWS CONSTRUCTION SUBCOMMITTEE

Mrs. McBride reported the project to be on time and on budget; an Executive Session discussion is needed.

POLICY/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE

Mrs. McBride stated the next meeting is April 7; the main discussion will be handbooks; she invited all concerned parents and students to attend. Also to be addressed will be some "housekeeping" issues. Mr. Saviano asked that the Student Council's proposals be considered; some students and faculty are concerned about the requirements for band and athletic participation being linked to

academics. Mrs. McBride said initial discussions have taken place with building principals. Mr. Saviano suggested the students be formally invited to participate in those discussions so the meeting can be held in the proper setting. Dr. Mara said the documents must be reviewed by high school administration who would organize the group as they see fit.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES

S2008-17 A-E: CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL

A. APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the positions listed below:

1. Debbe O. Fate Adult Basic Education (ABE)/General Education

Development (GED) Instructor (Days)(Part Time)

Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the

2007-08 school year, pending

satisfactory completion of pre-

employment requirement

Reason: To fill a vacancy in accordance with

grant funding

Funding: Adult Ed WIAII Grant

2. Erin L. Leonka Adult English as a Second Language (ESL)

Instructor (Days) (Part Time)

Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the

2007-08 school year, pending

satisfactory completion of pre-

employment requirement

Reason: To fill a vacancy in accordance with

grant funding

Funding: Adult Ed WIAII Grant

B. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the extracurricular positions listed below for the 2007-08 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs):

INTERSCHOLASTIC COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE Sport Position Coach

1. Baseball Coach Brian Crea

INTRAMURAL COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE Sport Position Coach

- 2. Cheerleading Coach Lisa Lamper *
- 3. Volleyball Coach Paul Castigliego
- C. CERTIFIED SUBSTITUTES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following applications for certified

substitutes pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

CERTIFIED

Name Area/Level

- 1. Victoria Guthlein General Subject Matter
- 2. Gaston Malloy Music
- 3. Kimberly A. Monahon General Subject Matter

D. CLASSIFIED SUBSTITUTES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following applications for classified substitutes pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

TEACHER ASSISTANTS

1. Kristen Ramos

CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE

- 2. Ronald Powell
- 3. Anthony Simmons

E. RESIGNATIONS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignations of

Victoria Guthlein from the position of Teacher Assistant, Patricia B. Gablinske from the position of Elementary Special Educator, Geraldine A. Johnston from the position of Elementary Librarian and Justin Teixeira from the position of Assistant Boys Lacrosse Coach as listed below:

1. Victoria Guthlein Teacher Assistant – Rockwell

Effective: February 26, 2008

Reason: Personal

2. Patricia B. Gablinske Elementary Special Educator

Effective: Immediately

Reason: Personal

3. Geraldine A. Johnston Librarian – Byfield/Reynolds

Effective: June 12, 2008

Reason: Retirement

4. Justin Teixeira Asst. Boys Lacrosse Coach – Mt. Hope High

Effective: Immediately

Reason: Personal

Recommendation #S 2008-16: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Torrado's Request for Payment for Architectural Services for the Kickemuit Technology

Space Renovation. (tabled at February 25 Meeting)

Mr. O'Dell motioned to approve; Mrs. McBride seconded. Mr. Estrella mentioned the contract is standard AIA. On a show of hands the motion carries with Mr. Dugan, Mr. O'Dell, Mr. Estrella and Mrs. McBride voting yes. Mrs. McBride's yes vote is under protest. Mr. Brule, Mr. Silva and Mr. Saviano voted no.

Recommendation #S 2008-19: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, ratify the Contractor's Contract for the Kickemuit Technology Space Renovation.

Mr. O'Dell motioned to approve; Mr. Brule seconded. The total amount is \$211,000. The motion passed by a vote of 6 to 1 with Mr. Silva voting no.

Construction Administration Service for the Kickemuit Technology Space

Dr. Mara reported Mr. Simmons is effectively providing this service during off hours. It is serving us well to have a District person in this role; no other service is needed at this time. Mr. O'Dell stated that Mr. Torrado has been notified his services will no longer be needed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - 8:18 PM

In accordance with Open Meeting Laws 42-46-5(a)(1)-(9), 2(b), Mrs.

McBride motioned to go into Executive Session at 8:18 PM to discuss contract issues, personnel issues and BWEA contract negotiation issues. Mr. O'Dell seconded. Mr. Estrella recused himself from BWEA contract negotiation discussion; and since nothing in the session will require an action, he dismissed the camera. The motion passed unanimously.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING – 9:21 PM

The Committee discussed issues noted above.

ADJOURNMENT – 9:22 PM

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Brule, seconded by Mrs. McBride, motioned to adjourn at 9:22 PM. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Silva, Secretary